

ROSTER OF THE MEDICAL OFFICERS ON DUTY IN DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

HEADQUARTERS—Colonel A. C. Girard; First Lieut. John D. Yost; privates, 3; non-commissioned officers, 5.

ALCATRAZ ISLAND—Captain A. E. Truby; Contract-Surgeon S. T. Weirick; privates, 12; non-commissioned officers, 2.

FORT BAKER—First Lieut. Louis Brechemin Jr.; privates, 8; non-commissioned officers, 2.

FORT MASON—First Lieut. Charles W. Farr; privates, 6; non-commissioned officer, 1.

DISCHARGE CAMP—Contract-Surgeon J. S. Kennedy; privates, 7; non-commissioned officers, 2.

FORT M'DOWELL—First Lieut. W. J. Lyster; Contract-Surgeon G. I. Hogue; privates, 10; non-commissioned officer, 1.

BENICIA BARRACKS—Contract-Surgeon W. F. de Niedman; privates, 6, non-commissioned officer, 1.

SAN DIEGO BARRACKS—Major W. L. Kneidler; privates, 7; non-commissioned officers, 2.

FORT MILEY—Contract-Surgeon Victor E. Watkins; privates, 6; non-commissioned officer, 1.

HONOLULU—Major W. B. Davis; Contract-Surgeon C. L. Baker; privates 10; non-commissioned officers, 3.

ORD BARRACKS—Major W. P. Kendall; Captain Irving W. Rand; First Lieut. Frank C. Baker; Contract-Surgeon F. H. Titus; privates, 17; non-commissioned officers, 3.

PRESIDIO (POST)—Major. William Stephenson; First Lieut. E. P. Rockhill; Contract-Surgeon H. N. Kierulff. Dental Surgeons—C. D. S., John S. Marshall; C. D. S., E. J. Craig; C. D. S., Frank P. Stone. Privates, 24; non-commissioned officers, 10.

GENERAL HOSPITAL—Lieut.-Col. George H. Torney; Captain J. M. Kennedy; First Lieut. Junius C. Gregory; First Lieut. T. L. Rhoads; First Lieut. E. D. Shortlidge; First Lieut. B. J. Edgar Jr. (on D. S. with insane); First Lieut. Chas. F. Craig; First Lieut. J. L. Sheperd; First Lieut. John H. Allen; Contract-Surgeon L. B. Porter; Contract-Surgeon T. J. Strong; Contract-Surgeon G. P. Dillon; privates 136; non-commissioned officers, 18.

TRANSPORTS—Logan—Lieut. W. T. Davis (on l. of a.); privates, 4; non-commissioned officer, 1. Sheridan—Lieut. John W. Hanner; Lieut. Alexander Murray; privates, 4; non-commissioned officer, 1. Sherman—Lieut. Cary A. Snoddy; privates, 4; non-commissioned officer, 1. Kilpatrick—Contract-Surgeon J. P. Kelly; privates, 4; non-commissioned officer, 1. Dix—Contract-Surgeon James B. Ferguson; privates, 2. Buford—Contract-Surgeon Stephen Wythe; privates, 4; non-commissioned officer, 1. Thomas—Lieut. W. A. Powell; privates, 4; non-commissioned officer, 1. Sumner—Lieut. Thomas Devereux; privates, 4; non-commissioned officer, 1.

COMPANY OF INSTRUCTION (No. 2.)—First Lieut. W. J. Lyster; privates, 110; non-commissioned officers, 14.

The following changes have occurred in the stations of medical officers of the Army in this Department:

First Lieut. Carroll D. Buck, assistant surgeon, arrived from the Philippines on the transport Thomas on March 13, and has been assigned to duty with the Philippine Scouts for a tour of duty at St. Louis, Mo. Contract-Surgeons Ira A. Allen, Almon P. Goff, and James M. Feeney, returned from the Philippines on leave of absence. Contract-Surgeon Mills Dennis returned from the Philippines and accompanied the 11th Infantry to Ft. D. A. Russell, Wyo., and then proceeded to his home, Temple, Texas, for an-

nulment of contract. Contract-Surgeon B. P. Norvell arrived from the Philippines for annulment of contract and is assigned to duty with the Philippine Scouts. Contract-Surgeon Titus was relieved from duty at Ord Barracks, Monterey, and is now on duty with troops at the Presidio.

Brigadier-General W. H. Forwood, retired, who was formerly Surgeon-General of the Army, spent a few days in San Francisco during the past month. General Forwood came to California for his health, which was completely restored before he left town. He had many interesting things to say about Panama. He was the guest of Colonel A. C. Girard, Assistant Surgeon-General, Chief Surgeon of the Department.

Weeds Used in Medicine.—The U. S. Department of Agriculture has just issued Farmers' Bulletin No. 188, entitled, "Weeds Used in Medicine." The bulletin was prepared by Alice Henkel, Assistant in Drug and Medicinal Plant Investigations, Botanical Investigations and Experiments, Bureau of Plant Industry.

Attention is called to the fact that certain well-known weeds now either generally or locally infesting the country are the sources of crude drugs at the present time obtained wholly or in part by importation from abroad. Roots, leaves, and flowers of several of the species most detrimental in the United States are gathered, prepared, and cured in Europe and not only form useful commodities there, but supply to a considerable extent the demands of foreign lands. Hence it appears probable that while weeds can hardly be made desirable, still in his fight to exterminate them the farmer may be able to turn some of them to account. Some of the plants coming within this class are in many States at present subject to antiweed laws, and farmers are required to take measures toward their extermination. It seems, therefore, desirable to make these pests sources of profit where possible.

The prices paid for crude drugs from these sources are not great and would rarely tempt anyone to pursue this line of work as a business. Yet, if in ridding the farm of weeds, and thus raising the value of the land, the farmer can at the same time make these pests the source of a small income instead of a dead loss, something is gained.

In order to help the farmers to obtain the best possible results for such products, instructions for collecting and preparing crude drugs from weeds are briefly given.

The plants mentioned in the bulletin are burdock, dandelion, the docks, couch grass, and pokeweed (principally root drugs); foxglove, mullein, lobelia, tansy, gum plant, scaly grindelia, boneset, catnip, hoarhound, yarrow, fleabane, blessed thistle, jimson weed, and poison hemlock (of which either the leaves, flowers, herb, or seeds are used in medicine); and also wormseed, and black and white mustards, of which only the seeds are used.

The bulletin contains 31 illustrations of the weeds described. It is for free distribution and can be obtained on application to Senators, Representatives, and Delegates in Congress, or to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

It is reported that the number of suicides in Chicago is steadily increasing. During last year 459 are reported, of which number 239 were married people. So many as 169 chose to depart by the carbolic-acid route, and while it is not difficult to account for a large number of suicides in Chicago, it remains a mystery why so many of them choose carbolic acid; perhaps it is not so worse as Chicago.